receiving inputs that the current Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) suffers from some inadequacies and is engaged in discussions with the States to seek their views as well as to impress on them the steps to make the system efficient.

(c) to (e) Only good quality foodgrains conforming to PFA standards and free from insect inspections are supplied to States/ UTs for distribution under PDS. Foodgrains strictly conforming to prescribed quality specifications are procured by FCI and State agencies for distribution under PDS.

Ozone depletion

175. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:
DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been undertaken to find out the effects of Ozone depletion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the bad effects of ozone depletion and who are the sufferers;

(d) what are the emission sources of ozone; and

(e) what steps are being taken to prevent release of ozone depleting gases in the atmosphere and how far the objective has been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Scientific studies have revealed that the depletion of ozone layer affects human health with potential risk of eye diseases, skin cancer and infectious diseases. It also affects plants and animals in aquatic eco-systems, bio-geo chemical cycles, air quality and materials.

(d) Anthropogenic gases are the emission sources of ozone in the lower atmosphere.

(e) A Country Programme for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances was prepared in 1993. The Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol has approved funds for 203 existing industries to phase out use of Ozone Depleting Substances. New units are being encouraged to opt for ozone friendly technologies. A project for phased reduction and cessation of entire Chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) production by 2010 has been approved by the Multilateral Fund.

Polluting units in Delhi

176. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the polluting units in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had a proposal to shift or close down the industries which were polluting Yamuna; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Nearly 2300 water polluting units have been identified in Delhi. These industries include electroplating, anodising, pickling, dyeing, heat treatment and service stations for cars and motor vehicles. In addition, there are 6211 air polluting industries comprising Thermal Power Stations, Boilers, Foundries, Electric Induction Furnaces, Hot Mix Plants, Brick Kilns and Oil Fired Potteries. Of these, 140 units comprising all the Hot Mix Plants and Brick Kilns are closed.

(c) and (d) Closure directions including disconnection of electricity